25th January 1933]

Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 491 asked by Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th January 1933, page 300 supra.]

From whom and the nature of the representation.	Subject.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)
Memorials from the ryots and mirasidars of Tanjore district, 1931.	Arrangements may be made to facilitate larger export of paddy and particularly railway freight for paddy may be reduced.	A large number of printed memorials in identical terms has been received.
Memorials from the ryots and mirasidars of Tanjore district, February 1932.	A committee consisting of officials and non-officials may be appointed to investigate our grievances and explore and find out the means of affording redress to us in the matter of (1) burden of land tax, (2) abnormal fall in the value of lands, (3) abnormal fall in the value of agricultural produce, (4) indebtedness of mirasidar, (5) reduction in railway freight for the transport of agricultural produce and (6) other similar grievances.	Do.
Resolution passed at the Tanjore Delta Mirasidars' Conference, Kumbakonam, dated 26th July 1931.	This conference brings to the notice of the Government that, in spite of the low prices prevailing, there is considerable slump of paddy in this district and the mirasidars have not been able to market the same at any reasonable price and, as such, the only way to give temporary relief at least to the mirasidars will be to reduce the existing heavy railway freight for paddy and other agricultural produce and to afford special facilities for the transport of the same to Colombo, West Coast districts, Salem, Coimbatore and other places and requests the Government to interfere and the Railway authorities to reduce the railway freight by at least 50 per cent and to give special facilities for transport.	....
Resolution passed at the meeting of the Shiyali Taluk Mirasidars' Association, dated 17th February 1932.	In view of the prohibitive freight charges levied by the South Indian Railway which tells much upon the rice trade of these parts the Government are requested to address the Railway authorities on the subject and the Railway authorities are requested to show substantial concession in the matter as was given to wheat in North India and that with regard to Shiyali station the old concession rates be restored, viz., Rs. 11–4–0 per ton to Colombo and As. 3–1 to inland places from Shiyali.	....
Resolution passed at the meeting of the Shiyali Taluk Mirasidars' Association, dated 2nd October 1932.	This meeting requests the Government that immediate steps should be taken to reduce the railway freight for transport of paddy and rice from Shiyali to Colombo and other stations.	....

[25th January 1933

From whom and the nature of the representation.	Subject.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)
Memorial of the Pattukkottai Taluk Mirasidars' Association of October 1932.	Transport charges, etc., should be reduced by the railway, and adequate port facilities provided so as to maintain and, if possible, improve the present trade of Tanjore rice in Ceylon.	....
Resolution passed at the meeting of the mirasidars of Kunnam village, Shiyali taluk, dated 9th November 1932.	This meeting requests the Government to take steps to reduce the railway freght for the transport of rice from Tanjore to Ceylon to such an extent as to encourage export in larger quantity.	....
Resolution passed at the meeting of the mirasidars' of Achalpuram and Nallur villages, Shiyali taluk, dated 12th November 1932.	This meeting further requests the authorities that on no account the tarams of the lands be converted and that full facilities by way of reduction of railway rates be afforded for the full and free export of Tanjore rice to Colombo and other places.	....
Resolution passed at the Conference of the Mannargudi Taluk Mirasidars, dated 26th November 1932.	This conference further requests— (1) that the high railway freight on rice from the several stations of the South Indian Railway in the Tanjore district be reduced and made proportionate to the distance; (2) that the ports of Muthupet, Thopputurai and Point Calimere, Tirumallavasal, etc., be opened for steamer traffic; (3) that better traffic facilities for these ports may be provided.	....
Resolution passed at the Conference of the Tanjore District Cauvery Delta Mirasidars at Kumbakonam, dated 27th November 1932.	This conference urges the imperative necessity of reducing the railway freight to the level of pre-war rates and especially on account of the fact that the prices of agricultural produce have come down to a much lower level than the pre-war level.	....
	The original markets for the Tanjore district paddy and rice must be made available for the export of rice and paddy, such as Ceylon, West Coast, Coimbatore, etc.	....
	The Local Government are requested to bring pressure on the Government of India and the Railway Board to reduce the rates for agricultural products till at least the depression lasts.	....
Resolution passed at the meeting of the mirasidars of the old Cauvery delta in Mayavaram and Shiyali taluks in the Tanjore district, dated 25th December 1932.	This meeting requests the Government and the Railway Rates Committee to reduce the existing rates of freight for the transport of paddy and rice from this district to Colombo and other places, as they are unduly heavy and operate as a handicap to our competition in foreign markets.	....